

Amendments to the Specification:

(1.) Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

[0017] Figure 6 is partially cut-away perspective view of the vibration damper of Figure 2 ~~showing possible alternative fiber orientations in Details C and D;~~

(2.) Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0017]:

[0017.1] Figures 6A-6C depict possible alternative fiber orientations within the matrix of the elastic element of Figure 6 at dashed circles 6A/6B and 6C;

(3.) Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following amended paragraph:

[0034] In several possible embodiments of the elastic element 36, the fibers 46 may be dispersed in a generally unidirectional orientation within the elastomer matrix 44. For example, the fibers 46 may be dispersed transversely in the matrix 44 in an axial orientation that is generally parallel to an axis of rotation 48 of the elastic element 36, as shown in Fig. 6A, ~~Detail C, Option 1~~. The axis of rotation 48 of the elastic element 36 is coaxial with the longitudinal axis 42 of the crankshaft 18. In another possible embodiment, the fibers 46 may be dispersed longitudinally within the matrix 44 in the circumferential direction of the elastic element 36, as shown in Fig. 6C, ~~Detail D~~. Of course, as one skilled in the art might contemplate, other fiber orientations might be used as well. For example the fibers 46 might be disposed in a radial orientation that is generally perpendicular to the axis of rotation 48 of the elastic element 24 so that the fibers 46 extend radially from the axis of rotation 48 as shown in Fig. 6B, ~~Detail C, Option 2~~. In addition, other fiber orientations may be used as well, including multi-directional orientations. For example, a fiber weave mat might be used in the place of a plurality of unassociated unidirectional fibers.